AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):

1. (Currently Amended) Profile-creating apparatus for creating at least a first profile associated with transmission upon at least a first channel of at least a first burst-data signal transmitted in bursts to a receiving station, said profile-creating apparatus comprising:

a profile parameter determiner coupled to receive an indication of an initial burst of the first burst data signal transmitted upon the first channel to the receiving station, said profile parameter determiner for determining a value of at least one signal-related parameter and at least one channel-related parameter, wherein the signal-related and channel-related parameters are collectively representative of communication of the first burst data signal over the first channel to the receiving station; and

a profile parameter storage device coupled to said profile parameter determiner, said profile parameter storage device for storing values representative of the at least one signal-related parameter and the at least one channel-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner, the values stored at said profile parameter storage device to be used to facilitate receive operations performed at the receiving station ~~of~~ on subsequent bursts of the first burst data signal.

2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the receiving station is operable in a communication system in which communication protocols include a contention period and wherein the initial burst of the first burst data signal, responsive to which said profile parameter determiner determines the at least one parameter, is communicated during the contention period.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein ~~the at least one parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a channel-related parameter;~~ the channel-related parameter is representative of a channel condition of the first channel.

4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the channel-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a value representative of fading exhibited upon the first channel.

5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein the receiving station comprises an equalizer for performing equalization operations when the at least the first burst data signal and wherein the value representative of fading exhibited when the first channel comprises an equalizer weighting value to be used by the equalizer during the equalization operations.

6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the receiving station comprises an antenna assembly and wherein the channel-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises an antenna parameter related to the antenna assembly.

7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the first burst data signal is transmitted by a first sending station having an antenna assembly and wherein the channel-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises an antenna parameter related to the antenna assembly.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein ~~the at least one parameter determiner by said profile parameter determiner comprises a signal-related parameter,~~ the signal-related parameter is representative of a signal characteristic of the first burst data signal transmitted ~~when~~ over the first channel.

9. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a value representative of a frequency characteristic of the first burst data signal.

10. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a value representative of a time-shift characteristic of the first burst data signal.

11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the first burst data signal includes forward error correction (FEC) and wherein the signal-related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a value representative of the FEC included in the first burst data signal.

12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal related parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises a value related to power-levels of the first burst data signal.

13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said profile parameter determiner is further coupled to receive an indication of at least one additional burst of the first burst data signal, said profile parameter determiner further for determining an updated value of the at least one parameter responsive to the at least one additional burst of the first burst signal.

14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the receiving station is operable in a communication system in which communication protocols include a contention period and wherein the initial burst and the at least one additional burst of the first burst data signal, responsive to which said profile parameter determiner determines the at least on parameter is communicated during the contention period.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein at least the first burst data signal transmitted upon the at least the first channel comprises a plurality of burst data signals transmitted upon a plurality of channels and wherein said profile parameter determiner determines a value of a plurality of parameters representative of communication of the plurality of burst data signals and each of the plurality of channels.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for creating at least a first profile associated with transmission upon at least a first channel of at least a first burst data signal in bursts to a receiving station, said method comprising:

responsive to reception at the receiving station of an initial burst of the first burst data signal transmitted upon the first channel, determining a value of at least one signal-related parameter and at least one channel-related parameter, wherein the signal-related and channel-related parameters are collectively representative of communication of the first burst data signal over the first channel to the receiving station;

storing values representative of the at least one signal-related parameter and the at least one channel-related parameter determined during said operation of determining; and

using the values stored during said operation of storing to facilitate receive operations performed at the receiving station upon at least one subsequent burst of the first burst data signal.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16 further comprising the operations of:

detecting, at the receiving station, the at least one subsequent burst of the first burst data signal;

responsive to detecting the at least one subsequent burst, updating the previously-determined value(s) of one or both of the at least one signal-related parameter and the at least one channel-related parameter ~~determined during said operation of determining responsive to the at least one subsequent burst detected during said operation of detecting~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16 wherein the receiving station is operable in a communication system in which communication protocols include a contention period and wherein the initial burst of the first burst data signal responsive to which the at least one signal-related parameter ~~is~~ and the at least one channel-related parameter are determined ~~during said operation of determining~~ is transmitted to the receiving station during the contention period.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16 wherein the at least ~~one parameter determined during said operation of determining comprises a~~ channel-related parameter comprises one or more of equalization weighting and antenna parameters.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16 wherein the at least ~~one parameter determined during said operation of determining comprises a~~ signal-related parameter comprises one or more of forward error correction (FEC) amount, frequency change, burst time change, and burst power level change.